

Shelton retires with 40 years of experience; family provides SkillsUSA welding scholarship in his honor



*Warren Shelton receives Kentucky's
Greatest Welder Award from Corbin ATC
faculty and staff.*

Warren Shelton, the welding instructor at the Corbin ATC recently retired with 40 years of experience under his belt. Hired in May 1968, Shelton was the first welding instructor to set up shop and has worked under seven principals. He has literally taught hundreds of students and enjoyed having them become contributing members of society.

"When they hired me, my goal was to be the best that I could be in teaching this trade to young men – and now, women," said Shelton. "My goal has always been to turn out some good trades' people. That goal has not changed. I'm talking about people that can not just get a job, but can hold a job. I taught the trade, but also the work ethic."

There have been many firsts in Shelton's career and his family has taken it upon themselves to provide another first in his honor. As a tribute to his father, Mr. Tommy Shelton, M.D. wanted his father to be remembered for his love of teaching welding to students. He contacted the Office of Career and Technical Education central office and spoke to Mr. Steve Phillippi about setting up a Warren T. Shelton Welding Scholarship. The details were worked out and a \$250 scholarship will be given annually at the SkillsUSA Kentucky State Conference. The first place winner in the secondary welding competition will receive the scholarship. Terms of the scholarship state that the money will be applied toward his or her expenses to attend the national SkillsUSA competition.



Above: Warren Shelton holds his grandson as SkillsUSA Kentucky State Director Steve Phillippi presents him with a plaque recognizing the Warren T. Shelton Welding Scholarship.

"Mr. Shelton's family has joined the SkillsUSA family in giving to the SkillsUSA Kentucky Scholarship Fund," said state director Steve Phillippi. "Not only are they assisting a student, but they are recognizing their father for his forty years of service as a welding instructor and SkillsUSA advisor. Its families like Mr. Shelton's that promote one's service and continue to support the individual's projects. We thank Mr. Shelton and his family for this special scholarship. A worthy student will benefit as a result of this generosity."

*At right:
Members of the
Corbin ATC
faculty and staff
honor Warren
Shelton with a
rocking chair,
plaque, and
trophy.*



According to Shelton, "I have a lot of best moments. But, the most important moment is when I see these kids learn something – the light turns on and they go with it. I've enjoyed working here and I'll miss the students. It's going to be hard driving by this school and not going in to teach a class."



Warren and wife Charlotte.

Good News Flash #263

By: Fran Dundon

Office of Career and Technical Education
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet
December 17, 2008



Warren accepts a plaque of recognition and appreciation for 40 years of service from OCTE deputy exec. director Mike Kindred.